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Dated: January 5, 2004

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

(Reza Mollaaghababa)

Docket No.: 101361-0043  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Robert P. Dolan et al.

Application No.: 09/884,451

Filed: June 19, 2001

Art Unit: 2823

For: SIMOX USING CONTROLLED WATER  
VAPOR FOR OXYGEN IMPLANTS

Examiner: Maldonado, Julio J.

**RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. 1.114**

MS RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the final Office Action issued on October 3, 2003, Applicants file a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) together with this response to place the application in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Amendments to claims begin on Page 2 of this response.

Remarks begin on Page 6 of this response.

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